

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A vessel comprising a first stabilizer assembly and a second stabilizer assembly, each stabilizer assembly comprising:

at least one submergible at least partially hollow body; and
suspending means for suspending the or each body from the vessel,
the first and second stabilizer assemblies being suspended from substantially
opposite sides of the vessel.

2. (Original) A vessel according to claim 1 wherein the first stabilizer assembly comprises:

a first submergible at least partially hollow body and a second submergible at
least partially hollow body;

first suspending means for suspending the first body from the vessel; and
second suspending means for suspending the second body from the first
body.

3. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the
second stabilizer assembly comprises:

a first submergible at least partially hollow body and a second submergible at
least partially hollow body;

first suspending means for suspending the first body from the vessel; and
second suspending means for suspending the second body from the first
body.

4. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 further
comprising a third stabilizer assembly, the third stabilizer assembly comprising:
at least one submergible at least partially hollow body; and
suspending means for suspending the or each body from the vessel.

5. (Original) A vessel according to claim 4 wherein the first stabilizer assembly is
suspended near the bow of the vessel on one side, the third stabilizer assembly is
suspended near the stern of the vessel on said one side and the second stabilizer
assembly is suspended amidships on the other side of the vessel.

6. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to claim 4 ~~or claim 5~~ wherein the third
stabilizer assembly comprises:

a first submergible at least partially hollow body and a second submergible
hollow body;

first suspending means for suspending the first body from the vessel; and
second suspending means for suspending the second body from the first
body.

7. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ claim 4 further comprising a fourth stabilizer assembly, the fourth stabilizer assembly comprising:

at least one submergible at least partially hollow body; and

suspending means for suspending the or each body from the vessel.

8. (Original) A vessel according to claim 7 wherein the first stabilizer assembly is suspended near the bow of the vessel on one side, the second stablizer assembly is suspended near the bow of the vessel on the other side, the third stabilizer assembly is suspended near the stern of the vessel on said one side and the fouth stabilizer assembly is supended near the stern of the vessel on the other side.

9. (Currently Amended) A vessel according ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein the suspending means is capable of bearing high tension loads.

10. (Original) A vessel according to claim 9 wherein the suspending means is capable of bearing tension loads of more than one hundred times the loads it is capable of bearing in compression.

11. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to claim 9 ~~or claim 10~~ wherein the suspending means comprises elongate flexible members.

12. (Original) A vessel according to claim 11 wherein the elongate flexible members are chains.

13. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each body is of elongate shape and has a cross-sectional area greater than 4 m^2 .

14. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each body comprises one or more closed or closable spaces having a combined volume of more than 50 m^3 .

15. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each body comprises at least one ballast tank.

16. (Original) A vessel according to claim 15 wherein each body comprises a plurality of ballast tanks, each separately ballastable.

17. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each stabilizer assembly further comprises at least one fin projecting from the or each body.

18. (Original) A vessel according to claim 17 wherein the at least one fin is pivotable relative to the or each body to restrict movement of the body upwardly through water more than downwardly.

19. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each body is substantially prism shaped.

20. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein each body has a round, preferably circular, cross section.

21. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1 wherein each body has a rectangular cross section.

22. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1 wherein each body has a square cross section.

23. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1 wherein each body has a triangular cross section.

24. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any one of claims 19 to 23~~ claim 19 wherein one or both ends of each body is substantially conical.

25. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, further comprising one or more saddles for attaching to the vessel, to support the suspending means.

26. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein the suspending means of the first stabilizer assembly is connected to the suspending means of the second stabilizer assembly.

27. (Currently Amended) A vessel according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, in which only vertical loads are arranged to be transferred from the suspending means to the vessel.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reducing vessel motion comprising a first stabilizer assembly and a second stabilizer assembly, each stabilizer assembly comprising:

at least one submergible at least partially hollow body; and
suspending means for suspending the or each body from the vessel,
the first and second stabilizer assemblies being suitable for locating at substantially opposite portions of the vessel.

29. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 28 wherein each body is of elongate shape and has a cross-sectional area greater than 4 m^2 .

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 28 ~~or 29~~ wherein each body comprises one or more closed or closable spaces having a combined volume of more than 50 m^3 .

31. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 30 wherein each body comprises at least one ballast tank.

32. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 31 wherein each body comprises a plurality of ballast tanks, each separately ballastable.

33. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 30 to 32~~
claim 30 wherein each stabilizer assembly further comprises at least one fin
projecting from the or each body.

34. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 33 wherein the at least one fin is
pivotable relative to the or each body to restrict movement of the body through water
in one direction more than in another direction.

35. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 30 to 34~~
claim 30 wherein each body is substantially prism shaped.

36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 35~~
claim 28 wherein each body has a circular cross section.

37. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 35~~
claim 28 wherein each body has a rectangular cross section.

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 35~~
claim 28 wherein each body has a square cross section.

39. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 35~~
claim 28 wherein each body has a triangular cross section.

40. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 35 to 39~~
claim 35 wherein one or both ends of each body is substantially conical.

41. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 30 to 40~~
claim 30, further comprising saddles for attaching to the vessel, to support the
suspending means.

42. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 30 to 41~~
claim 30 wherein the suspending means of the first stabilizer assembly is connected
to the suspending means of the second stabilizer assembly.

43. (Currently Amended) A vessel comprising a stabilizing apparatus according to
~~any one of claims 30 to 42~~ claim 30.

44. (Original) A submergible body in the form of an at least partially hollow tube, for
reducing motion of a water-borne vessel comprising:

at least one ballast tank; and

at least one projecting fin for increasing the drag of the body through water.

45. (Original) A body according to claim 44 wherein the body is of elongate shape
and has a cross-sectional area greater than 4 m².

46. (Currently Amended) A body according to claim 44 ~~or claim 45~~ wherein each body comprises one or more closed or closable spaces having a combined volume of more than 50 m³.

47. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 46~~ claim 44 wherein the body comprises a plurality of ballast tanks, each separately ballastable.

48. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 47~~ claim 44 wherein the tube has a round, preferable circular, cross section.

49. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 47~~ claim 44 wherein the tube has a rectangular cross section.

50. (Original) A body according to claim 49 wherein the tube has a square cross section.

51. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 47~~ claim 44 wherein the tube has a triangular cross section.

52. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 51~~ claim 44 wherein one or both ends of the tube are substantially conical.

53. (Currently Amended) A body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 52~~ claim 44 wherein the or each fin is pivotable relative to the tube to restrict movement of the body through water in one direction more than in another direction.

54. (Currently Amended) A stabilizing apparatus comprising a body according to ~~any one of claims 44 to 53~~ claim 44.

55. (Original) A method for reducing motion of a water-borne vessel comprising:
suspending at least two at least partially hollow bodies below the water line from substantially opposite sides of the vessel.

56. (Original) A method according to claim 55 further comprising ballasting each body.

57. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 55 ~~or claim 56~~, in which the vessel is according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 27 or 43~~ claim 1.